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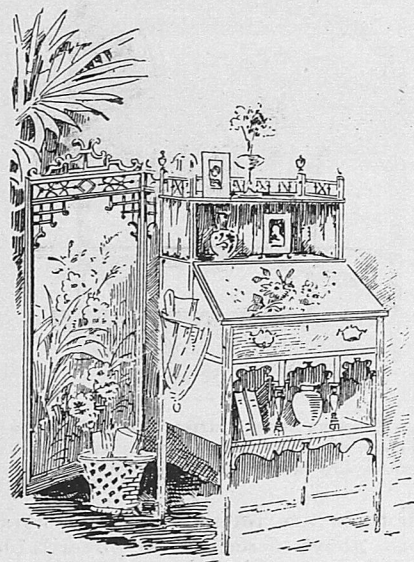
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THE Department of Amateur House Decoration is not only devoted to the construction of such cabinet work, artistic fitments, cosey corners, wall decoration, tapestry painting, pattern designing, embroidery, wood carving, repousse work, poker work, china painting, etc., as may be done by clever amateurs, but in addition to such sketches as we give from time to time in these departments, we also show single pieces of furniture of a more artistic character than could well be produced by the ordinary amateur. Our object in so doing is to cultivate the eye of the reader by the exhibition of fine pieces of furniture, fitments, embroidery, wood carving, etc., so

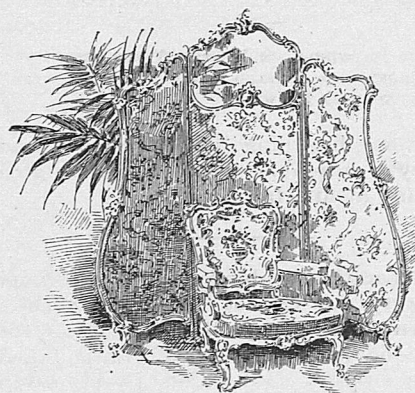


OAK WRITING TABLE AND SCREEN.

as to guide him or her in making a proper selection of beautiful household appointments. Side by side with the home-made cabinet, we present elegant designs in fancy tables, fancy cabinets, curio cabinets, artistic screens, divans, bookcases, writing tables, window draperies, lamps, and an assortment of elegant and artistic novelties in every department of house-furnishing.

The designs published in the current issues of our journal will, we trust, gratify the most fastidious taste in search of beautiful objects of this description, while the more practical information, intended for the benefit of those who are ambitious to construct beautiful belongings for themselves, will maintain the practical aims of the department, and satisfy those in search of guidance in different lines of decorative art work.

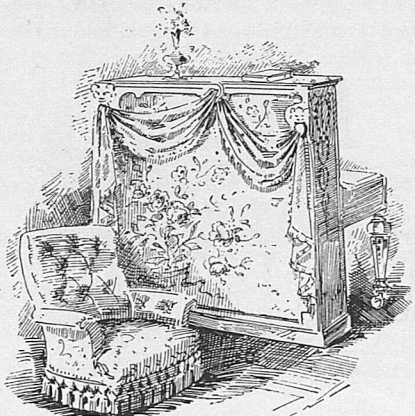
THE writing table and screen shown herewith are made of oak stained green. The former has numerous pigeon holes and drawers, and the canvas



LOUIS XV. SCREEN AND CHAIR.

panels of the latter have faint grey clouded backgrounds, decorated with mimosa and daffodils.

THE Louis XV. screen shown herewith is framed in exquisitely carved walnut. The panels are covered with an English woven brocade, with a flowing ribbon pattern in pink on a pale chocolate and ivory ground. The upper part of the central panel is of glass, so that the screen can be used without excluding the necessary light for reading and working purposes. The chair represented agrees with the screen, both as regards woodwork and upholstery.



ARTISTIC DRAPING FOR UPRIGHT PIANO.

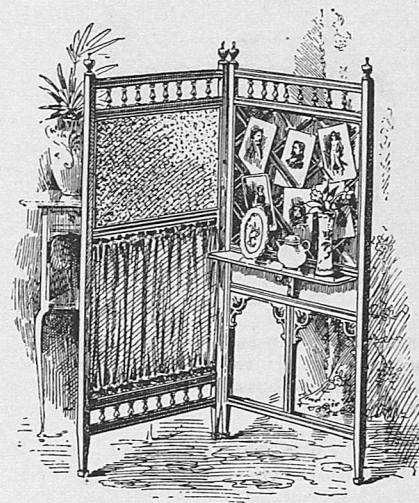
THE artistic draping of the cottage piano also illustrates a novel and artistic method of treating this popular musical instrument. The back is covered with canvas, on which a branch

of Gloire de Dijon, or American Beauty roses is painted. The frame is of rosewood. Two weirdly carved gargoyles are placed on each side, and support the drapery of yellow silk, edged with fringe.

HOW A CLEVER WOMAN BRIGHTENED A DARK HALL WITH PICTURES.

WHAT can be done with an irretrievably dark hallway that in the long, narrow New York house, alas! is not always the chosen haunt of sunshine and cheerful brightness?

One woman has hung hers, from frieze



TWO-FOLD SCREEN, WITH SHELF, MUFFLED GLASS, SILK PANEL, AND PANEL FOR PHOTOS.

to dado with little black and white pictures, and she says 'tis the only possible way to bring light into a hallway's hopeless darkness, says the *Illustrated American*. She did it all so cleverly and inexpensively that it's quite worth telling about:

Her hallway, the gloomy walls of which were hung with portraits, armor and photogravures, weighed on her spirit at goings-out and comings-in. Sometimes she was minded to turn everything upside down, and convert it into a Louis Seize white and gold corridor, but, having spent all her money on just such a transformation scene in the drawing-room, and having a vague recollection of reading in an authoritative article on house decoration that a hallway should express stately dignity in furnishing, she plotted for other ways and means.